

Minutes of 1-23-04 Meeting

Wind and Prairie Task Force

Opening:

The first meeting of the Wind and Prairie Task Force was called to order at 10:00 am on Friday, January 23, 2004, in the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 214 SW. 6th, Topeka, Kansas by Jerry Karr and Jerry Lonergan, Co-Chairs.

Jerry Karr: Opened the meeting and introduced Jerry Lonergan.

Thanks to Ann Marshall of Kansas Inc., for setting up the meeting. Thanks to Melany Miller of the Kansas Geological Survey, for the professional minute taking. Please give license tag numbers to Ann Marshall to avoid ticketing in the state lots. Welcome all members and guests.

Present:

Rose Bacon	rancher
Claude Blevins	county zoning administrator
Sheila Frahm	Natural Resource Legacy Alliance
Jerry Karr	farmer
Jerry Lonergan	Kansas Inc
Jim Ludwig	Westar
Alan Phipps	county commissioner
Alan Pollom	Nature Conservancy
Richard Porter	rancher
Scott Ritchie	rancher, businessman
Richard Seaton	Audubon of Kansas
Jennifer States	JW Prairie Windpower
Don Stephens	rancher
Joseph Stout	rancher
John Strickler	Natural Resource Legacy Alliance
Monty Wedel	county planner
David Yearout	planning consultant

Technical advisory group - Ex officio members

Charles Benjamin	attorney
Niki Christopher	attorney
Ryan Dyer	Chair, Prairie Band Potawatomi Energy Committee
Bruce Graham	KEPCO
Mike Irvin	Kansas Farm Bureau

Ward Jewell
Ed Martinko

professor of electrical engineering at WSU
State Biologist

Staff

Lee Allison
Liz Brosius
Melany Miller

SERCC Chair, Kansas Geological Survey
SERCC chief of staff, Kansas Geological Survey
Task force secretary, Kansas Geological Survey

Special guest:

Joyce Allegrucci

Chief of Staff for Governor Sebelius

Agenda

WIND AND PRAIRIE TASK FORCE

Agenda: First Meeting – January 23, 2004

Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation – 2nd Floor Conference Room
214 SW 6th – Topeka, Kansas, 785-296-1460 (for questions)

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| 10:00 | Welcome and Review of Agenda –
Jerry Karr and Jerry Lonergan: Task Force Co-Chairs |
| 10:10 | Governor Greeting and Thank You –
Joyce Allegrucci, Chief of Staff for Governor Sebelius |
| 10:20 | Task Force and Advisory Group Introductions |
| 11:00 | Task Force Background, Charge, and Staffing –
Lee Allison, Chair of State Energy Resource Coordinating Council |
| 11:30 | Questions and Task Force Discussion of Charge |
| 11:45 | Break and Lunch |
| 12:45 | Presentation of State Energy Plan
Lee Allison |
| 1:45 | Overview of Local Planning Issues
David Yearout, Task Force Member |
| 2:30 | Task Force Next Steps – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of Meetings (including public hearings)• Time and Location of Future Meetings |

- Other Issues

3:30 Adjourn

Approval of Minutes:

No previous meetings to discuss.

Governor's Greeting:

Jerry Karr: Introduces Joyce Allegrucci, Chief of Staff for Governor Sebelius.

Joyce Allegrucci: Governor Sebelius has expressed a great deal of confidence in the leaders coming forward to take on this task. You are asked to help resolve issues that have been with us for a long time. What is the Governor's position and why she has asked you to be on this task force? We have two natural resource treasures at the heart of this task force. One is the Wind and the second is the Flint Hills and Tallgrass Prairie of Kansas. We appreciate them both. Governor Sebelius supports the full and aggressive development of alternative energy sources of Kansas especially and including wind energy. She supports the preservation of the Flint Hills and the Tallgrass Prairie as a Kansas and a national treasure. The Governor's byword in this, and what you are all charged with, is to seek a balance. She does not believe in the case of Wind Energy and the Prairie that it is either/or. We can and must for our future, have both. The original idea for the task force was that we would help develop tools and best practices for local decision-making. We all know that the local counties are all charged with making decisions about their resources themselves. But more counties and legislators have come to the Governor asking for her involvement and the need of guidance. The Governor is expanding the task force mission slightly to look at the issues of the Wind and the Prairie in terms of its statewide implications. If we don't look at it in total, then we may be missing part of the picture and are likely to make poor choices and poor decisions. The reason the Governor is convinced that we can have aggressive wind energy implementation and development in the State of Kansas, and the reason we can preserve the Flint Hills and the Tallgrass Prairie lies in this map. (map is available online at http://www.kansasenergy.org/sercc_wptf.htm) The purple on the map shows the strongest wind energy in the State of Kansas. This is why the Governor believes that we can have both lots of wind energy and aggressive wind energy development and preserve the Flint Hills and the Tallgrass Prairie. There will need to be balance in your discussion regarding the Flint Hills and the Prairie, but the big picture is critical as you go through your task of responding to the Governor's charge. We know there are some issues right up front. Transmissions lines are huge in this discussion, where they lie now and where they should lie in the future. Development income for farmers and ranchers across the state who need diversity in their income, that's an issue. The Task Force will soon be privy to a study being undertaken by the Department of Commerce in Kansas that will bring you information about the impact of travel and tourism in the Flint Hills and the Tallgrass Prairie of Kansas that we think may help you in your decisions as you move along in what you should recommend to this Governor and to the state. There has been a lot of work done on siting of wind farms and turbines and we will have that available to

you. Transmission capability is a real issue and we understand that and the Governor needs your best guidance on this. The technology of transmission is changing rapidly and we need you to consider that. The incentives for development in western Kansas where the wind is most prevalent and strongest is an issue, and the developers need to tell us all what will incentivize them to develop wind to its fullest extent in western Kansas. Federal control of energy policy is a huge issue for you all. The tax incentives for Wind development are tied up with the Federal Government with their energy bill. They are telling us that they will be taking over more of our life in regard to transmission of all kinds of energy. Issues of the national grids that will be of interest: Federal control of energy policy. Those are a few of the things that the Governor has charged you to wrestle with. She believes that she has placed this in capable hands and that there are other capable hands willing to help you with information and resources. This will not be an easy task and the Governor knows this. There may be times that we may need to lock you in a room to give you the time to go through the issues. The Governor has confidence that you will give serious consideration to the issues before us and help find the balance so that the state can keep faith with its ancestors and faith with its future and find the balance in this very difficult situation. Today the newspaper quoted the Governor regarding the development of the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve. For about 10 years, the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve in Kansas has consisted of about 10,000 acres. The last 6 months there has been significant movement to go ahead and fully develop that reserve as it was intended in the first place. That plays into the travel and tourism aspect of this whole discussion that you will be having. This is a small piece of the picture, it's already in place, it's a piece of what you will look at but it is not intended to derail the beginning of this discussion with any signal other than to let you know it has been a part of Kansas for a decade now and is back in consideration for its place in the preservation of the Tallgrass Prairie.

Jerry Karr thanks Allegrucci for her presentation and asks the Task Force to help produce ideas and material to send forth to the Governor.

Introduction of Individual Task Force Members:

Ed Martinko, (ex-officio) State Biologist, Director of KS Biological Survey, Professor of Ecology; Rose Bacon, rancher in Morris County, Stocker backgrounding operation, various organizations, assisted with film on Tallgrass prairie; Dick Seaton, Riley County, attorney, University Attorney at Kansas State, Board of Trustees Audubon of Kansas; Alan Pollom, State Director for Kansas Nature Conservancy, interest is preservation of natural habitats and eco systems, work with wildlife agencies in Kansas; Ryan Dyer, (ex-officio), Chairperson of the Alternative Energy Committee for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, works with developers on reservation and Jackson County; Scott Ritchie, Geologist, Oil Producer, Lyon county rancher, advisory board for Kansas Geological Survey; Joe Stout, central Chase County, Cottonwood Falls, cattle rancher, land owner; Allan Phipps, southern Chase County, farm, cow/calf operation, Flint Hills resident, Chase County Commissioner; Richard Porter, Lyon County, rancher, Kansas Livestock Assoc., Member of Protect the Flint Hills; Charles Benjamin, (ex-officio), former County Commissioner from Harvey County for many years, taught political

science, attorney representing the Kansas Chapter for Sierra Club in favor of energy conservation, wind energy in state, dealt with easement cases, zoning issues in western Kansas and Flint Hills; John Strickler, Manhattan, retired forester, Sheila Frahm's back up, Kansas Natural Resource Legacy Alliance, natural resource issues with the State; Ward Jewell, (ex-officio), Electric Power Systems Engineer and teacher, research, consulting, on electric power systems at the Wichita State University, renewable energy resources, electrical power system; Mike Irvin, (ex-officio), Kansas Farm Bureau, Legal Department, farm in Goodland Kansas, practiced law; Monty Wedel, Manhattan, Director for Planning and Development Riley County, which is currently under a moratorium on wind energy development while we develop zoning regulations for siting and construction design, Set to expire May 7, 2004, hoping this task force will help us; Claude Blevins, Wabaunsee County Zoning Administrator, under moratorium through March 31, 2004, Plan developed pending approval, zoning regulation amendment on table for February; Don Stephens, Southern Greenwood/Elk County, cow/calf operations; Nikki Christopher, (ex-officio), attorney, Citizens Utility Ratepayer Board, Wichita native, published article about controversies that developed over the Tallgrass Reserve in Chase County; Sheila Frahm, Thomas County family farm, irrigated wheat, irrigated corn and dryland wheat, worked on Kansas Natural Resource Legacy Alliance Report, work with community colleges in Kansas; Jim Ludwig, Westar Energy, hope to bring expertise particularly in the area of the transmission issues that are critical to any development of energy whether it is renewable or other type of energy source; Jennifer States, JW Prairie Windpower, developer in Lawrence Kansas, current projects in Morris and Wabaunsee counties, from Nebraska, worked on Nebraska Governor's Task Force on Wind issues, non-profit environmental organizations; Bruce Graham, (ex-officio), Kansas Electric Power Cooperative (KEPCO) in Topeka Kansas, utility serves 2/3 of state, keenly interested in generation and transmission issues; Robert Robel, (ex-officio), International Expert on Wildlife, had a conference conflict with today's meeting so he is not present; David Yearout (arriving after making a presentation in Topeka at another location), Eldorado, Planning and Zoning Consultant, work out of Wichita, experience in planning and zoning in city and county levels throughout the state for over 30 years, city of Winfield, Johnson, Butler, Sedgwick, counties, consulted across the state, very active with Kansas Association of Counties, Professional Buying Associations, and County Planning and Zoning Association; Jerry Lonergan, President of Kansas Inc, used to head research program for utilities research-Kansas Electric Utilities Research Program, www.kswind.com website, project collecting wind data at six sites in Kansas so have been involved previously in wind energy research; and Jerry Karr.

The Task Force Charge:

Jerry Karr introduced Lee Allison to review the charge and the mission of the Wind and the Prairie Task Force.

Lee Allison: I am the State Geologist, Director of the Kansas Geological Survey based at the University of Kansas, but here today as Chairman of the State Energy Resource Coordination Council. This is the State's energy policy and planning arm established 1-1/2 years ago by executive order. Governor Sebelius is expanding the role of that energy

council to be the primary energy policy planning entity within state government. Within the next few weeks there will be a revised executive order coming out of her office as we continue to move in that direction. She sent a letter that I copied you, instructing me as chair of the energy council to establish this Task Force. This Task Force is set up as an official arm of the state energy council established under executive order. So you are appointed by the Director of the Kansas Geological Survey at the Governor's request to address these important issues.

Development of our state's wind energy potential can play a key role in turning the state back to an energy exporter. After lunch I will give a presentation of the state energy plan to put all this in context to see where we stand with energy consumption and production in the state, to see where it's going and where it's been. Two-thirds of all the remaining resources like Tallgrass Prairie in the world, sits in the Flint Hills. This is the only area with landscape expanses of Tallgrass Prairie, which is a true treasure of national and international proportion. The challenge being laid out to us is not to get the state involved in the siting of windmills for counties, not to step on the toes of what the locals do, but to provide fundamental guidelines, principles, best practices. So we don't have to reinvent the wheel within each county. We have a couple dozen counties that are now involved in various extents in this debate. We need to expand our role slightly to look at the guidelines, principles, tools and best practices that we can find, many of which are already being implemented at county level. We don't want every county to have to reinvent and go through that same steep learning curve. I have put together a 3-page charge to you as the Task Force. This is posted on the website

(http://www.kansasenergy.org/sercc_wptf_charge.htm). Specifically, I ask that you look at the relationships between areas of Tallgrass Prairie that are most appropriate for preservation and areas that might be appropriate or desired for wind development. To recommend guidelines, principles, best practices to be used at the local level, local government, stakeholders, and communities, to try to resolve some of these issues. Recommend voluntary guidelines or model agreements for land leases. Most landowners are going into this without ever having developed or knowing what kind of situation they are getting into. Recommend voluntary local siting guidelines. There are some siting guidelines that have been developed by various groups, some counties have adopted their own or modified those and put them in place. We ought to look at those and see how we can apply them across state. Develop tools to be used in the decision making process to help site wind energy projects. Identify policies or authorizations needed by local government to address multi-county or regional issues. Some have asked if we are going to be coming out with a list of legislation. That is not your direction. But you are not precluded from doing that. I have asked the chairs to define the agenda and where you need to go to pursue the issues brought forward to you. If we see legislation is something that is logically coming out of this, pursue it. Number six, what I intended to indicate is some of these projects and issues cross county lines. We want to be sure that counties and local entities have all the tools and the authority they need to pursue issues that cross county lines. There are statutes in place that allow that in many cases; we want to make sure that if there are other tools that you think need to be implemented, we need to look at that. When counties come forward and say we need some tools, we need some capabilities to do some things we can't do right now, I encourage you to pursue that.

New efforts for land trusts and other mechanisms to preserve the prairie. I know there are organizations and groups out there pursuing those; I hope they come forward and bring you some of their thoughts.

The report to the Governor is due no later than May 31. This is a very short time-frame. There is potential for a huge impact in wind development and prairie preservation and, more broadly, outside of the Tallgrass Prairie and across the state. The energy council has no staff or budget, but the Kansas Geological Survey has been providing the staff for the operation of council for the past year and a half. Melany Miller is serving as secretary. She will be taking minutes. We have set up the website through the Energy Council website. We have a listserve so all of you are automatically on the listserve. If you send a message to the listserve, everyone will get a copy of that message. Anyone from the public may sign up for this as well. Another staff member is Liz Brosius. She is serving as chief of staff to the energy council and she is the principle architect for putting together the annual Energy Plan. We have delivered our second energy plan to the governor and the legislature, which is also online. She is here to help put the report together at the end of your discussions. We also have the State GIS clearinghouse at the survey. We bring all GIS data across the state and serve it out from the survey. We also provide services to local government and state agencies. They are putting together some GIS layers for you to use as a resource. The wind map and the map of the Tallgrass Prairie are created in separate layers. They can put those together and manipulate the layers to see what impacts and changes you will have in the areas. We are also adding a name to the Task Force for the area of tourism: Jan Jantzen who runs Kansas Flint Hills Adventures and has a website for this business. He has been out of town, but he has agreed to be on the Task Force to represent the tourism aspect.

Questions and comments regarding the Task Force charge included:

- 1) the need to further understand the possible statewide charge regarding wind power;
- 2) the need for more maps and related data;
- 3) how does the charge relate to other important areas of Kansas, such as the Cheyenne Bottoms and the Red Hills;
- 4) the process of preparing the final report for the Governor;
- 5) the role of the Transmission Task Force;
- 6) the nature of legal assistance for the Task Force;
- 7) the idea of the production of hydrogen;
- 8) the difference between individual generation projects and commercial development;
- 9) the need to review how other states are handling wind policy and tax incentive situations;
- 10) the fact that the state is not involved in siting issues of wind projects;
- 11) local units of government have no control over transmission line construction and location of new major traditional power facilities;
- 12) the impact of the federal Energy Act pending in Congress;
- 13) the need for a moratorium on wind-energy development by counties until the Task Force completes its work;

- 14) the role of local units in zoned vs. unzoned counties.

Break for lunch.

Jerry Karr opened the afternoon session and introduced Lee Allison, Kansas Geological Survey, to give a presentation of the state energy plan recently delivered to the legislature.

Kansas Energy Plan 2004

Lee Allison: I am going to give an overview of the state energy council's plan. You are now members of the State Energy Resources Coordination Council by serving on this task force. The energy plan was delivered to the Governor on January 12, 2004. (Allison's powerpoint presentation is available on the WPTF website at http://www.kansasenergy.org/sercc_wptf_meetings.htm).

The council was set up in early fall of 2002 by Governor Graves by executive order and charged with putting together a comprehensive energy plan for the state. The two main goals were (1) to restore Kansas to energy self-sufficiency so that we would be producing as much energy as we were using; and (2) to get us back into the position where we were an energy exporter and making money off the energy we were selling outside of the state and fueling the economy. We as a council adopted a third goal, which is to ensure Kansans have low-cost, reliable, and sustainable energy supply. We can become more self-reliant. If the cost of energy we are producing in the state goes way up, you are going to attract investors in here. If you can sell/produce oil for twice the value of what it sells for in the rest of the country, you would have everyone investing and we would find a lot more oil. We want to make sure that the economy and the citizens are taken care of by having that low-cost and sustainable energy.

In last year's plan we saw a three-fold way of making us more self reliant in energy. First, extend the life of existing energy sources (oil and gas fields). That is what has driven energy production in the state for the last century. second, increase conservation and efficiency. Kansas has been very good at this. The productivity of a dollar's worth of energy is three or four times more than what it was 30 years ago. We are doing a lot better but still have a way to go. third, develop new energy sources (especially, wind, ethanol, and coalbed methane).

The total report is available at the Kansas Geological Survey at the University of Kansas.

Questions and comments related to the Kansas Energy Plan included:

- 1) how does the Wind and Prairie Task Force relate to the energy council (an external committee);
- 2) can the transmission system absorb the power from 3 more industrial wind development (yes, 2 or 3 more 100 megawatt type facilities);
- 3) what is the capacity of the Gray County project (110 megawatts);

- 4) how do you attract capital to build transmission lines and who pays for them, the investors or the consumers;
- 5) wind power fluctuates more than traditional power units;
- 6) wind projects cannot get financing without transmission issues worked out ahead of time;
- 7) the state has a very limited ability to encourage or incentivize transmission expansion; the issue is overwhelmed by the federal considerations;
- 8) the Southwest Power Pool (SPP) currently has its proposal before the federal energy regulatory commission (FERC) to be a regional transmission organization. Wind developers must secure permission before they build (via SPP or other pools);
- 9) there are few ties between the eastern and western interconnect (the Colorado/Kansas border is the dividing line).

Local Planning and Zoning Issues

Jerry Karr introduced David Yearout to discuss local planning and zoning issues of wind-energy development (this powerpoint presentation is available on the WPTF website at http://www.kansasenergy.org/sercc_wptf_meetings.htm).

Local land-use regulations are structured power vested in the state. The statutes grant the authority to cities and counties to adopt local land-use regulations. It is a very structured design within the statutes, and you are required to follow those procedures. Jurisdictions that don't, find themselves in trouble pretty rapidly.

Zoning in and of itself is not a taking of the property right. You have a lot of rights attached to the ownership of land, but the exploitation of your land to the detriment of your neighbors is not a right. Zoning laws, as they are usually embodied in local jurisdiction, only apply to the use of land; you don't zone the people. The reality is that we have a lot of jurisdictions that will grant individual zonings and attach that to an individual. It is good only as long as you own that the land. If you sell it, it is no longer applicable. It is a land-use rule, not a people rule. It is a restriction on the property, so it must be reasonable and it must serve a public purpose.

Kansas is an optional planning and zoning state. It is not mandatory. The laws are enacted and are very similar in terms of their grant of powers with other states in the country. Some states mandate their local counties and cities engage in planning and zoning. I don't see this ever happening in Kansas. In Kansas Law, land use for agriculture purposes is exempt. That exemption continues on that land regardless of who owns it, as long as its use is for agricultural purposes. But when the land-use decision by the owner triggers a change, that change may no longer be an agricultural use, it may be a commercial or industrial, or residential. Then it is subject to any locally adopted regulations. By design, zoning regulations are designed to establish local minimum standards. Counties can choose to have no regulatory oversight at the local level, or they can adopt local regulations. The degree to which they regulate local land uses is up to the local jurisdiction.

Some things are not involved in local land-use regulations, but they have become an issue within the commercial wind energy system development. One of these is the issue of taxation. Under current state law, the actual structures are tax exempt. They are not subject to local property taxation. The small part of ground they are constructed on could possibly be reclassified into either commercial or industrial, and it could be taxed at a different rate than the surrounding agriculture ground. However, the major value in the individual structure is not subject to taxation.

The Gray County facility, like others, has made voluntary payments tabbed as “payments in lieu of taxes.” The Butler County application was denied by the court on the basis of “too much reliance on an offer of payment.” The offerant comes in and states that if you approve my project I will make all these payments, and this appears like a bribe. Payment in lieu of taxes, taxation issues are not a factor in land-use decisions. How the property gets used may change the taxes.

Areas of concern whenever there is a local siting include land-use impacts, visual impacts, noise impacts, impacts on biological resources and wildlife, soil erosion and water quality issues, public health and safety issues, soil and hazardous waste issues, social, economic, public service, and infrastructure issues, as well as other regulatory requirements that come in with the construction. This does not include the interconnection and the ability to sell the energy. Anytime you build a structure higher than 200 ft. above ground level it must be lit. Lighting requirements are mandatory, but the type of lighting is optional.

Local regulations should be based on a plan. Plan first, then decide how to implement plan through adoption of regulations. Regulations deal with the “how” to develop. They do not address the “where.” The plan gives direction on “where” development is appropriate.

For the Wabaunsee County development, we attempted to develop a statement about the goal, what we were trying to achieve, what we should address as we try to carry out the plan. Among the objectives, we wanted to (1) ensure adequate facilities for new development, (2) have new development pay its way, (3) ensure new development is compatible with existing development, (4) support development designed to the land, (5) promote innovative site planning as appropriate, (6) support timely annexation by the cities, and (7) discourage strip commercial development.

Zoning regulations are tools available to help any city or county to carry out their plan.

The purpose of this presentation is to give some overview of what’s happening at the local level with zoning. There are different levels of sophistication, involvement, and local concern.

Questions and comments included:

- 1) Have you ever written a regulation concerning a viewshed or the appearance? (Riley County is working such rules);
- 2) Does the Association of counties have model programs? (No, not for local levels);
- 3) The courts will not substitute their judgement for the local decision. If you have differing opinions on both sides, and it is still debatable, the decision made locally is what they will support. Just because someone does not agree with the decision, they still had to render the decision reasonably and the issues are still debatable and unresolved;
- 4) The courts are not going to interpose against the local governing body unless the decision was unlawful.

Jerry Karr thanked David Yearout for his presentation.

Break

New Business:

Jerry Karr called meeting back to order and asked for discussion of what the Task Force needed for background information.

- 1) Would like to have more technical information on the equipment and engineering, the distance between the towers and how they operate.
- 2) Suggests we visit sites either as a task force group or individually or use a video from Gray County.
- 3) What have the other states been doing with respect to technology;
- 4) Some counties have specific zoning regulations on the books, so to know what we have in place in this state would be good.
- 5) The National Wind Coordinating Council has a request for proposals out now to look at communities that either have identified or overcome and have been through a process.
- 6) The grouping of windmills. Lorn Clements (Architecture professor at K-State) showed there are different groupings of windmills and their impact, and is someone that could show us the advantages of the different groupings. We need a better map to show the actual Tallgrass Prairie and Flint Hills area involved. Kansas Wildlife has a good one that covers most of the state.
- 7) What are the wind generation costs? Variable production over time, what is the true economic value for wind power over coal? Is it worth the effort? Is it truly going to add value to the state of Kansas?
- 8) There are local perspectives, taxation, jobs, etc.
- 9) What is the percentage of time actually run, efficiency, actual production, what is used?
- 10) If federal subsidies say no, it's a done deal. What if the states say it is economical?
- 11) The resource has been identified. Kansas is ranked number one on wind energy potential. Sometimes when the wind is not blowing, some of the wind

turbines are not moving so they are not generating power during some of our peak energy times. Wind turbines are not a reliable source. The reliability factor makes it hard to find purchasers. If the wind farm is not moving, there is no power to load on. We need to look at the development of a natural resource, economic impacts, creation of jobs, taxes, etc. I want to look at what is happening with utilizing this resource, rather than just saying we have the ability to generate electricity.

- 12) I have not seen a study on environmental impact study. What happens to wildlife, humans, is there an electromagnetic field? This will help us determine sites that are suitable or marginally suitable. We need an environmental input.
- 13) The idea of creating the understanding of the ability to develop the resource in wind should be balanced with the recognition that we have other resources worth preserving and how do we go about it. If we identify an area that should not be developed, there are land owners there that would be impacted if they want the development. Some may want the opportunity to wind power so we may have issues where we need to provide some kind of mechanism to offset that loss.
- 14) Perhaps someone from the tourism area could be brought in for input. The Department of Commerce has a study of tourists in the Flint Hills.
- 15) I think you are asking that we would return to Topeka for one or two meetings in February.
- 16) Field trips would be nice but given time constraint, we can't afford many field trips. Do the serious work and then deal with public hearings later.
- 17) If we have two meetings in February and then two public hearings, that only gives us one month to come up with a report.
- 18) Rather than set up a field trip for us to go out as a Task Force Group, we should go out there on our own or with a few others just to experience the wind farms.

Agenda for next meeting:

Fridays are good. Probably 2 meetings per month.
Hold Feb 20 and 27 open for WPTF.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm on Friday, January 23, 2004. The next meeting will be February 20 at a location to be announced, 10 am to 3:30 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Melany Miller, WPTF Secretary

Minutes approved by:
